

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Masaaki Ueda, et al. **Examiner:** Henry M. Johnson III
Serial No: 10/751,565 **Art Unit:** 3739
Filed: January 5, 2004 **Docket:** 17339
For: MEDICAL INSTRUMENT
HOLDING APPARATUS **Dated:** October 3, 2008
Conf. No.: 3667

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following reference, which is also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

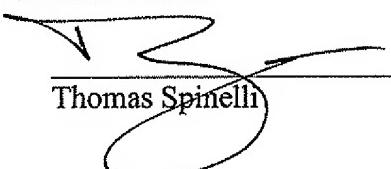
1. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2001-258903 published September 25, 2001.

The reference listed above was cited in an Official Action dated September 2, 2008 received from the Japanese Patent Office. Applicants are submitting a copy of the above reference, together with a translation of the Examiner's comments regarding the reference from the Official Action.

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Patent & Trademark Office via Electronic Filing through the United States Patent and Trademark Office e-business website on the date set forth below.

Dated: October 3, 2008


Thomas Spinelli

In compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits a translation of portions of an official action by a foreign examiner in which the reference was cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. patent application is that the reference was cited in a foreign patent application on the same subject matter. However, no independent analysis of the reference, the accuracy of the statement of the foreign examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of that country or the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made; the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the translation of the foreign examiner's comments submitted herewith.

The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Applicants also authorizes Deposit Account 191013 to be charged the requisite \$180.00 official fee pursuant to § 1.17(p)

Respectfully submitted,

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